

Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575
Facsimile: 601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending August 15, 2004

Released: 3:00 P.M., August 16, 2004

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending August 15, 2004**. Record low temperatures for August occurred throughout the state this week. The cooler temperatures and lower humidity were welcomed by poultry producers and allowed for many poultry houses to dry out. As corn harvest continues, a few cases of ear rot are being observed; furthermore, there has been an increased number of armyworm sightings. Soil moisture was rated 14 percent very short, 33 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2003	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Dough	99	98	100	100	1	3	16	47	33
	Dent	94	88	94	96					
	Mature	70	49	53	67					
	Harvested	17	5	7	16					
	Silage Harvested	92	80	92	73					
Cotton	Setting Bolls	98	95	96	99	2	5	23	50	20
	Open Bolls	7	--	8	21					
Rice	Heading	98	85	95	89	0	0	8	67	25
	Mature	20	3	14	14					
	Harvested	1	--	1	1					
Sorghum	Heading	100	100	100	100	0	0	14	63	23
	Turning Color	95	88	93	86					
	Mature	55	26	52	45					
	Harvested	5	1	6	8					
Soybeans	Blooming	100	100	100	100	0	5	13	51	31
	Setting Pods	99	97	96	96					
	Turning Color	54	38	44	35					
	Shedding Leaves	34	19	24	19					
	Harvested	9	3	5	3					
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	70	64	81	78	7	6	29	46	12
Sweetpotatoes						1	7	35	47	10
Watermelons	Harvested	100	98	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						1	7	16	58	18
Pasture						5	7	24	53	11

County Agent Comments

"The main farm activity has been harvesting hay. It's getting dry in most areas and crops are showing signs of stress."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

"Showers in the middle of the week improved moisture conditions. We have been seeing frog-eye in soybeans. Insect pressure light and we have had many calls about trees losing leaves caused by stress."

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Later planted soybeans and cotton have been hurt by the lack of rain the last few weeks. Corn harvest will begin this week.”

— Charlie Stokes, Monroe

“Corn yields are very good and the dry weather has allowed harvest to be move rapidly. Soybean harvest will start this week in a few fields.”

— Dr. Dennis B. Reginelli, Noxubee

“Cool, dry weather has allowed corn to rapidly dry out. Harvest will begin as soon as ear moisture will allow. Producers took advantage of dry weather to break winter grazing pastures and some fall tillage behind silage harvest has also been done. Silage harvest is all but complete at this time. Reports of armyworms in pastures are being heard.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Soybean and corn harvest has begun and rice harvest should start in 7 to 10 days. Late soybeans and cotton need a good rain. Those who can are irrigating.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“The showers we got Wednesday helped a lot. The cool temperatures are slowing down maturity. It was 51 degrees at my house Friday morning!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Scattered rain showers across the area should help early soybeans finish filling pods. The early soybeans are turning color. Corn is maturing at a rapid rate and early cotton is past node above white flower 5 stage.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Soybean, grain sorghum and corn harvest are off to a good start. Soybean yields are excellent and corn and grain sorghum yields are average or above average. Several rice fields will be dry enough for harvest this week. Irrigation systems continue to be run on cotton and later maturing soybeans.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Soybean, corn and grain sorghum harvest are in full swing and yield reports are good. Cotton is still being sprayed for plantbugs.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Corn yields are somewhat disappointing as early numbers begin to come in. Looks like the corn crop will be 30 to 40 bushels per acre below last year across the board, probably due to nitrogen losses and diseases related to wet weather in June and July. We are also finding ear rot in some fields — probably also related to weather. Soybeans still look good, even though more rain during late pod filling would have been beneficial. The cotton situation is highly variable from good to the worst that most farmers can remember. Cool weather is also retarding development of cotton, and could reduce potential yields, unless we return to "normal" weather very soon.”

— Ernie Flint, Attala

“The wet weather in June and July caused some low yields for our corn crop and ear rot is very plentiful. Cotton varies from being good to being the worse crop because of the varied weather conditions. The cool weather could slow the cotton production.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“We have some armyworm invasions, although they don't seem to be as bad this year as in the past few year's. There has been ideal weather to harvest hay the past few weeks. Our ground is getting too dry now, as I predicted two weeks ago in the weather report.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Eighty degrees in August is nice for working, but heat units are needed to finish a stunted cotton crop. Soybeans have good potential, but rains are needed to fill pods and finish any late corn. Insect pressure has been light overall.”

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“Cool, dry weather dominated the week. Upper soil moisture is extremely low, although mid-week scattered showers brought limited relief. Pastures are dry and most producers have caught up with hay harvest. Corn is rapidly maturing and drying under these conditions. Soybeans and cotton need rain to boost yields.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“The dry soil conditions are stressing soybeans and hindering soil preparation for the planting of ryegrass and small grains for winter grazing.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“The rains last week were welcome; we were beginning to get dry. Cotton is setting bolls and peanuts look good. Cattle have plenty of grazing. Hay harvest is continuing, but quality is not great.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“Cooler temperatures have really been good for fall crops like pumpkins and fall tomatoes. Hay production is going well.”

— Mark Gillie, Greene

“Producers are spraying pastures to control fall armyworms. Poultry producers and flocks are enjoying the cooler weather and lower humidity levels. Poultry houses are finally drying out! Calves are being marketed earlier than normal by many producers due to the current strong market and fear that the market may fall in September.”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“The last few days have been unreal for August. Below normal temperatures and low humidity have created near perfect weather. Hay harvest continues, but we need some rain in the next few days to keep the grass growing. Soybeans are also needing some rain. Cattle are in good shape.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Producers are in the process of completing their second cutting and baling of hay, with rainfall not being the problem that it was in July. Producers have been baling more hay than usual due to rainfall amounts received in June and July.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Producers are continuing to harvest hay. Weather has improved, so we can get it to dry for baling.”

— Judith Breland, Stone

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
Dr. Joseph H. McGilberry, Director

Southern Regional Climate Center
Louisiana State University
Elizabeth Sanders
Service Climatologist

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

Weather Summary from August 9, 2004 to August 15, 2004 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Charleston	92	51	75	80	-5	0.21	-0.52	1	2.43				
Cleveland	92	53	71	81	-10	0.10	-0.19	1	0.41				
Tunica				80		0.00	-0.56	0	0.50				0.26
Extreme/Average	92	51	73	81	-8	0.10	-0.46	1	1.11				0.26
2. North-Central													
Hickory Flat	90	48	70	79	-9	0.78	-0.02	1	0.78				
Calhoun City	87	52	71	80	-9	0.60	-0.10	2	1.57				
Independence	90	46	68	79	-11	0.00	-0.65	0	0.24				
Oxford	91	49	75	79	-4	0.07	-0.70	1	0.28				
Extreme/Average	91	46	71	80	-9	0.36	-0.35	1	0.72				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	89	54	73	79	-6	0.12	-0.65	1	0.96				
Iuka	86	46	67	77	-10	0.19	-0.65	1	4.16				
Ripley	87	50	69	79	-10	0.62	-0.02	1	1.31				
Tupelo	91	54	74			0.39		1	0.64				
Verona				80		0.23	-0.61	2	0.59				0.26
Extreme/Average	91	46	71	80	-9	0.33	-0.37	1	1.77				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	90	56	74	82	-8	0.18	-0.35	1	2.94				
Rolling Fork	93	54	74	81	-7	0.20	-0.40	1	1.21	102	70	86	
Stoneville	92	54	74	82	-8	0.19	-0.23	1	0.42				0.26
Yazoo City	92	52	74	82	-8	0.25	-0.53	1	0.40				
Extreme/Average	93	52	74	82	-8	0.21	-0.39	1	1.24	102	70	86	0.26
5. Central													
Canton	89	52	71	81	-10	0.24	-0.46	2	1.53				
Carthage	89	53	72	80	-8	3.64	+2.82	3	4.31				
Lexington	89	51	71	80	-9	0.64	-0.01	2	0.65				
Eupora	87	51	71	79	-8	1.36	+0.73	2	1.92				
Extreme/Average	89	51	71	80	-9	1.47	+0.70	2	2.10				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	90	55	73	80	-7	0.12	-0.51	2	1.16				0.38
Houston	89	49	70	79	-9	0.89	+0.26	2	3.05				
Louisville	89	54	71	79	-8	1.21	+0.49	2	1.51				
State University	90	52	73	80	-7	0.13	-0.62	2	0.13	86	77	81	0.22
Extreme/Average	90	49	72	81	-9	0.59	-0.15	2	1.46	86	77	81	0.30
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	90	55	74	81	-7	0.58	-0.19	2	1.84	97	72	86	
Natchez	91	53	74	81	-7	0.01	-0.84	1	1.64				
Oakley	94	52	75	81	-6	0.00	-0.90	0	1.65	101	79	89	
Vicksburg	90	52	73			0.00		0	1.56				
Extreme/Average	94	52	74	81	-7	0.15	-0.76	1	1.67	101	72	87	
8. South-Central													
Collins	90	55	74	81	-7	0.25	-0.66	2	0.50				
Columbia	89	56	74	82	-8	2.76	+1.71	3	4.26				
Tylertown	90	55	73	81	-8	4.39	+3.30	2	5.00				
Extreme/Average	90	55	74	81	-7	2.47	+1.45	2	3.25				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont	95	56	77			0.43		2	1.11				
Hattiesburg	91	56	75	82	-7	1.27	+0.17	3	1.96				
Laurel	88	58	73	81	-8	2.78	+1.86	3	4.90				
Newton	90	49	72	80	-8	1.41	+0.55	4	2.10	91	69	80	0.23
Extreme/Average	95	49	74	81	-7	1.47	+0.62	3	2.52	91	69	80	0.23
10.Coastal													
Bay St Louis				82		2.14	+0.77	2	2.75				
Gulfport				83		2.54	+1.28	4	3.29				
Poplarville	91	58	74	82	-8	3.00	+1.84	1	4.09	91	69	80	0.40
Waveland	91	60	77	82	-5	0.83	-0.37	3	3.68				
Extreme/Average	91	58	76	82	-6	2.13	+0.87	3	3.51	91	69	80	0.40
State	95	46	73	81	-8	0.94	+0.13	2	1.93	102	69	83	0.29

DFN = Departure from Normal.